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W.C.T.U. WOMEN STRONG FOR COX, WET OR DRY

Delegate to State Convention Here This Week Came Near Disrupting Organization When Attacked Wet Record of Ohio Governor

Politics came near disrupting the thirty-eighth annual convention of the North Carolina W. C. T. U. in session at Elizabeth City this week when Mrs. Ellen J. Y. Preyer, chairman of the publishing committee of that body, held up a portrait of Governor James M. Cox and told the women in the convention that they could not afford to cast their vote for Cox because he is a "wet candidate."

Local women present made unmistakable manifestation of the fact that they would vote for Cox wet or dry and that their allegiance to Democracy was not secondary to their allegiance to the W. C. T. U. "If Governor Cox is a wet candidate," declared Mrs. Sallie Boettcher of the local W. C. T. U., "then we will vote for a wet candidate in next Tuesday's election." Mrs. Boettcher spoke without heat, but there was a tenseness in the situation like something about to snap. One prominent Elizabeth City woman said that if some one had started a move to leave the meeting after Mrs. Preyer's speech, there wouldn't have been a corporal guard left in the First Baptist Church Auditorium where the meeting was being held.

Mrs. Preyer was addressing the convention Tuesday afternoon. In the course of her address she unrolled a poster carrying a portrait of Governor Cox, the poster purporting to be an appeal by the liquor interests in behalf of the Governor's candidacy.

"We can not afford to vote for this man," declared Mrs. Preyer, "because he is a wet candidate." "I came from Ohio," she went on, "and it is true that Governor Cox was three times elected Governor of that state. But he was elected by the liquor interests." Much more that she said is not quoted because this newspaper had no reporter present at the meeting.

Mrs. Preyer then proceeded to read a roll call of North Carolina Representatives in Congress and put Congressmen John H. Small in the Cox category.

When she concluded her remarks there was an ominous silence and resentment showed on the faces of local women. Anything might have happened in a moment, but Mrs. Boettcher took the situation in hand and voiced the sentiment of the locals. "If Governor Cox is a wet candidate, then we shall vote for a wet candidate in Tuesday's election." Here Mrs. T. Adelaide Goodno, of Greensboro, the presiding officer of the convention rapped for order and declared that the W. C. T. U. was a non-partisan organization and policies must not enter into its discussions. Some of the women have remarked that Mrs. Goodno did not raise such a point of order when Mrs. Preyer was speaking.

Mrs. Boettcher also came to the defense of Congressman Small and said that while he had voted against national prohibition as a matter of state rights, that she knew Mr. Small was for the Volstead Act without reservations, having had such assurance from Mr. Small himself. She said that she was sure Mr. Small's successor in office, Hallett S. Ward would likewise respect and represent the unmistakable sentiment of his constituents on prohibition law enforcement. Mrs. Boettcher made it clear that she thought the W. C. T. U. had the situation well in hand politically, that its Representatives in Congress regardless of whatever label one might attempt to attach to this or that presidential candidate.

No War on Tobacco Yet
Anxious smiles who have been expecting the W. C. T. U. to take their toll away from them next listened in vain for the call to arms against My Lady Nicotine at this convention. The convention did not take up the tobacco evil or indicate in any way, what its plans are in this connection. Those who attended the convention are convinced that the W. C. T. U. yet has its hands full in dealing with the illegal beverage liquor traffic and that it will be several years before it will have time to spare from its liquor eradication work to wage war on tobacco.

The work of the W. C. T. U. is now world wide in its scope and its activities are no longer confined to the United States. Having driven the brewer and distiller from this country they must follow him to Brazil, to Africa, to China and every other corner of the earth where he has re-established himself. The motto of the W. C. T. U. which used to be "For God and Home and Native Land" has been changed, to read: "For God and Home and Ever Land." And so with world wide prohibition as its goal and with the words and screams full of illicit distillers and bootleggers at home, the W. C. T. U. has about all it can attend to for some years to come.

To Raise Age of Consent
The program of the North Carolina W. C. T. U. for the ensuing year is indicated in the following resolutions adopted by the convention:

(Concluded on Page 7.)

A NEW MYSTERY Baffles Police

What Was In Mysterious Bundle Sunk to Bottom of River By Mysterious Strangers?

A mystery dark and deep as the shades of sin is perturbing the easily perturbed minds of Pasquotank sleuths. Two mysterious men in a mysterious covered cart went to the mysterious old Brickhouse near Elizabeth City Tuesday morning, took a mysterious bundle out of the mysterious cart, took a row boat, rowed up the river several hundred yards, lifted the mysterious bundle out of the boat, dropped it into the mysterious waters of the Pasquotank, came back to their mysterious covered cart and mysteriously disappeared.

W. L. White and family live at the old Brickhouse. Mr. White was away from home Tuesday morning and Mrs. White alone with her small children when the men appeared in the covered cart. They asked her for the loan of a row boat. Mrs. White told them she didn't have a boat. Then men informed her that they must have a boat locked to a landing near the house they broke the lock, loaded the mysterious bundle into the boat and rowed up stream. Mrs. White concealed herself and watched their movements. She saw them put the bundle overboard and push it down with their oars.

As soon as the men had left Mrs. White communicated with neighbors and got word to the sheriff's office. Sheriff Reid and Chief of Police Holmes have dragged the river near the spot indicated by Mrs. White, but found nothing. There are several theories as to the contents of the package. Some theorize that the bundle contained a corpse and a grave crime was concealed. Others think the men were illicit distillers who were concealing evidence of their illicit distilling. The secret may remain a secret 'neath the placid, indifferent and uncommunicative dark brown waters of the Pasquotank, since no trace of either the men in the cart or the thing in the water has been found.

CRUISER BURNED NEAR THIS CITY WEDNESDAY

Plover II, Bound From New York to Miami, a Total Loss From Spectacular Fire

Plover II, a 50 foot cruiser owned by J. W. MacLaren, 40 E. 30th St., New York City, was burned to the water's edge in Pasquotank river just above the mills of the Dare Lumber Co. near Elizabeth City Wednesday afternoon.

The little cruiser was bound from New York to Miami, Fla., via Dismal Swamp Canal, in charge of Capt. E. A. Lindberg, pilot, and C. Fred Lindberg, engineer. Something went wrong with the electrical wiring and a spark did the work. Capt. Lindberg saw the fire start, but a heavy southeast wind was blowing from the engine room and before he could get the flames had spread, a gasoline tank exploded and the craft was ablaze from stem to stern in two minutes. The two men escaped only with their clothes. Capt. Lindberg left his purse containing \$300 in his flight and the engineer lost his shoes.

Abandoned by its captain and engineer the burning cruiser drifted before the wind into the shallow waters of the eastern shore of the river and burned to the water's edge. The cruiser was valued at \$20,000 and insured for at least half of this amount. Capt. Lindberg will remain at Elizabeth City awaiting the arrival of the owner.

CALLS DANCE HALL ANTE ROOM TO PROSTITUTION

Over in Washington, N. C. Also Dancing Youth Catches Hell From Pulpit

Not in Elizabeth City alone in North Carolina are the church people stirred up over the modern dance. Over in Washington, N. C. the pulpit is thundering against the same thing. Dr. Oscar Heywood, preaching in the Baptist Church of that town last Sunday night delivered the following load of mustard shot. He said:

"The dance hall is the ante-room to that temple of Diana—Prostitution. I'll give that hall down town just two years to run before it completely demoralizes and wrecks the virtue and chastity of your young women. The dance started with partners touching fingertips. But now it is knee between knees, cheek against cheek and breast against breast. Do you expect any good to come out of a performance of that kind?"

Thomas Nixon of Hertford is one of the delegates to the National Farmers Convention to be held at Columbus, O., Nov. 16-19.

SAVE THAT 50 CENTS ON YOUR SUBSCRIPTION BEFORE NOVEMBER 15TH

Cotton is going up, corn is going up, everything will begin to show signs of stabilization after the national election is over. In meantime take advantage of THE INDEPENDENT'S special 25 per cent. rebate on subscriptions until Nov. 15. Instead of remitting the regular price, \$2.00 for a year's subscription later on, just send in \$1.50 now and save 50 cents. There has been no change in the subscription price of this paper and the price will remain \$2.00 a year. The present concession is made only because of the unsettled condition of things. Take advantage of it. Time's up Nov. 15. Get your subscription in now; put it off and you may think of it again when it is too late.

MEEKINS SPEAKS HERE SATURDAY

Col. Isaac M. Meekins will make his first campaign speech to a home town audience Saturday night, Oct. 31, speaking at the courthouse at 8 o'clock.

This distinguished townsman has spent the past eight weeks in campaigning under the direction of the National Executive Committee of the Republican party. He was six weeks in Maine, New York, New Jersey and Delaware and was to have been sent to West Virginia, but the State Committee insisted upon his being sent to his native state for the closing days of the campaign. He joined the Coolidge Special Train at Asheville on Oct. 20 and has been speaking in North Carolina since.

DISMAL SWAMP CANAL DOOMED

Century Old Waterway To Be Closed If Government Doesn't Want It

The Dismal Swamp Canal which for more than a century served as the great trade route between Norfolk and Elizabeth City, connecting the inland waters of Virginia with the inland sounds and rivers of North Carolina is to be abandoned at an early date, if the government does not take it over and use it as a part of the government inland waterway system. So declared M. K. King, the venerable president of the Dismal Swamp Canal Co. to the Directors of the Elizabeth City Chamber of Commerce at a meeting of that body Tuesday afternoon of this week.

Mr. King came from Baltimore to Elizabeth City to lay his troubles before the Chamber of Commerce Directors. The Dismal Swamp Canal is no longer a paying investment since the government took over the Albemarle & Chesapeake Canal, a parallel project and opened it free of tolls. Most of the traffic which formerly came the way of the Dismal Swamp now follows the Albemarle & Chesapeake.

The Dismal Swamp Canal Co. is operating at a loss. The Dismal Swamp Canal to-day serves only a few craft plying between Elizabeth City and Norfolk, the tolls from which do not pay the costs of operating the great locks at South Mills. Elizabeth City is immensely interested in this canal because it is Elizabeth City's only direct waterway to Norfolk and Chesapeake Bay. South Mills is interested, because without the Dismal Swamp canal that community would have no transportation of any kind. The Richmond Cedar Works and the John L. Roper Lumber Co., two big timber concerns holding millions of acres of valuable juniper timber in the Dismal Swamp are interested, because if the canal is abandoned and the locks opened, the effect will be to drain a great area of their holdings and drainage is destructive to juniper timber.

Mr. King asks the Chamber of Commerce to join with other interested organizations and individuals in an appeal to Congress to take over the Dismal Swamp Canal and keep it open. This the Chamber of Commerce will do.

Some think there is little hope of getting the government to act. The Dismal Swamp Canal has seen its greatest days of usefulness. It was surveyed by George Washington and built in the last century, having been opened to traffic just one hundred years ago this year. It was one of the greatest hydraulic projects of all the world in that century. Is abandonment at this late date will be a sorry close to a project so closely identified with the history, commerce, poetry and tradition of this region for nearly a century and a quarter.

"BILLY IN JAPAN" MONDAY NIGHT

The play, "Billy in Japan," which was to have been staged at the High School the other day by about 100 little tots, will come off for sure Monday night, November 1 at the High School and on Wednesday following will be presented in Hertford.

Fire of undetermined origin wiped out the business district of the little town of Castalia in Nash county Tuesday night, causing a loss of more than \$100,000.

Loses Interest In Teaching



MISS LULA GARNETT BALLANCE of this city to Mr. Casper Scott Lamb, of Belvidere, was announced this week. Miss Ballance, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry M. Ballance, is a teacher in the Elizabeth City Graded Schools and an altogether attractive and talented young woman. The date of the nuptials has not been made known, but will be some time this fall.

ELWOOD TWIFORD HAS HEARD CALL OF TAPS

A Brave Soldier and Good Man Dies Like He Fought

A hasty victim of that dread scourge tuberculosis, Elwood Twiford of E. Lake, a much mentioned hero of the World War, laid down the arms of life last Saturday night at 11:30 o'clock and departed the land for which he surely gave his life.

THE INDEPENDENT has the story last week of Twiford's heroism and how from tuberculosis attacked him as a result of wounds and exposure on the battlefields of France, the American government refused to provide any assistance toward recovery.

The examining doctor who sent him to Camp Jackson for treatment prior to his service in France, says that he was about as near perfect a specimen of manhood as North Carolina ever turns out and that he was without sign or suggestion of tubercular bacilli, at that time. Information just received from Twiford's father corrects the statement of last week and states that he came home from the army with a case of tuberculosis, and did not contract it afterwards.

FIRST WOMAN IN DARE CO. TO RUN FOR OFFICE

Republican Widow Putting Up Strong Fight Against Crippled Democrat

The first woman to run for office in Dare county is Mrs. Hattie Westcott of Wanchese who is a sister of ex-Sheriff Jeff Hayman, formerly a prominent politician in Dare. Mrs. Westcott is the Republican candidate for the office of County Treasurer, is about thirty-five years old and a widow. Her opponent is A. C. Hassell, Democrat of Manteo, who is also the present incumbent. This being his second term. Hassell is a one legged man who will not for that reason be expected to withdraw his campaign or even to modify it for chivalrous reasons.

CITY BANKS CLOSE NOV. 2

The Elizabeth City banks will close Tuesday, November 2, on which day the general elections will be held. It is also a legal holiday.

While in St. Louis this week to purchase horses and mules, Charles L. Bevil, a wealthy and well known live stock dealer of Fayetteville was taken ill and died.

Hathaway Says

If you wear glasses, have your eyes and glasses both examined from time to time, and go to the place where you can afford to pay a reasonable price for real professional work. Remember your eyes are your bread-winners. Take care of them.

You have your teeth examined twice a year. Why not your eyes? They are more important.

Dr. J. D. Hathaway
Optometrist
Phone 999 Bradford Bldg.

THIS FAIR MADE A LITTLE MONEY

On Financially Sound Footing, Big Things Planned For Next Year

The Albemarle Agricultural fair at Elizabeth City, meeting all of its obligations and having something like \$1,200 to \$1,500 in the treasury from the four days' gate receipts and sales of privileges and concessions. When the last account was checked up and the last voucher okayed, J. Wesley Foreman, president of the Association and L. D. Case, executive secretary threw up their hands and asked to be excused from putting on other fairs in Elizabeth City. These men have been putting the thing over with capital and now that the Association has recently acquired more than \$25,000 of new stock and a long list of interested stockholders, these men are anxious for a permanent organization to take over the business of building up the fair at Elizabeth City.

A meeting of the stockholders will be called at an early date and officers elected for the ensuing year. Steps will then be taken to secure a permanent secretary.

It is the sense of the present Board of Directors that the fairs so far held here have been a failure only in that they have not truly shown the agricultural resources of this region. But in this respect this year's fair was far and away ahead of any fair ever held in this section, the poultry and live stock exhibits having been exceptionally fine. With a re-assuring paid-in capital the Association will undertake another year to make the Elizabeth City Fair what it should be—a truly great exposition of live stock, poultry, agricultural products, arts, crafts and domestic achievements of northeastern North Carolina.

Much work will be done on the fair grounds next summer. Much new ground will be broken and put in order and buildings erected for agricultural and live stock exhibits.

GOVERNOR COX DROPS DEAD AT CHOWAN FAIR

Famous Race Horse Broke The Half Mile Track Record at Elizabeth City Last Week

Governor Cox, the wonderful race horse that broke the half mile track record with a mile in 2:16 1-4 at the Elizabeth City Fair last week, dropped dead on the track at the Chowan Fair at Edenton Wednesday afternoon.

Governor Cox had won the first race at Edenton Fair, had taken second money in another race and had finished fourth in the third race. His driver was turning him around in front of the grand stand at the finish of the third race when the beautiful horse reeled and fell and died.

Governor Cox was formerly owned by T. S. White of Hertford and J. Wesley Foreman of Elizabeth City. They sold him a few weeks ago to a Mr. Hunt, of Henderson, N. C., for \$2,250.

78 YEARS YOUNG

Justice of the Peace M. B. Culpepe of this city celebrated his 78th birthday, Saturday, Oct. 23.

FIRST CUBAN MAIL PLANES LAND AT ROANOKE ISLAND

Giant Passenger Carrying Airplanes Stop at Historic Island and Take Passengers and Copies of The Independent on First Flight

TOWN STIRRED BY VICIOUS LIE

Pugh-Wells Republican Herald Makes Dastardly Attack Upon a Popular Woman

Under the caption "Foul Propaganda Being Spread in Our City Graded Schools," The Herald, the Republican newspaper owned by C. R. Pugh and Jackson Wells and their creditors, published another campaign lie last week which has aroused the righteous resentment of every decent man and woman in this city and the effect of which will be to show men of the Pugh and Wells type just where they stand in this community.

Without even a reliable rumor upon which to base their report and without having asked Mrs. L. E. Skinner herself for an affirmation or denial of the story, "The Herald accused Mrs. Skinner of a foul lie and held her up to the community as a teacher who 'should be forever barred from the school rooms of North Carolina.'"

The Herald reported with screaming headlines that Mrs. Skinner had told the little children in her school room that if the Republicans win next month that white children will have to sit next to colored children in the public schools, and then proceeded to condemn Mrs. Skinner.

Mrs. L. E. Skinner is a primary teacher in the Elizabeth City public schools and is one of the most efficient and best loved teachers in the state. She has done wonderful work in her department and won the highest confidence and esteem of hundreds of parents and children. Mrs. Skinner never did what The Herald accused her of doing, as The Herald could have ascertained by interviewing either Mrs. Skinner or any of her little pupils. Little children do not lie about matters. Little children who drink in every word that Mrs. Skinner says in the school room say emphatically that they never heard Mrs. Skinner say anything about white and colored children going to school together. They will tell you to get their mothers to register and vote for better schools. Mrs. Skinner's own statement is published elsewhere in this newspaper to-day.

FOUL PROPAGANDA BEING SPREAD IN OUR CITY GRADED SCHOOLS

One Teacher is Telling Her Pupils That Negroes and Whites May Attend School Together Under Republicanism

A Democrat who tells young men and women that negro domination would follow a Republican victory in Pasquotank county in November usually wastes his words, because he is merely a misguided or dishonest spreader of the pet campaign under the Democratic party. A teacher in a school, and that they may have to learn their lessons under negro school teachers; and who intimates that she has no objection to anyone who votes for Harding by reason of these possibilities, is entirely different from the radical Democrat who is willing to yell to yells of negro domination because he hopes by his ignorant or dishonest representations to swing a few deceived voters his way. He talks to older people, and he does not impose upon the faith and credulity of little children.

THE INDEPENDENT is reliably informed that Mrs. L. E. Skinner, a third grade teacher in the Elizabeth City Graded schools, is telling her pupils, slighted and ten years old, the vilest lies, and that she is painting for them disgusting word-pictures of schoolroom class places that the spectacle of negro holding authority over white men here is as disgusting to the white Republican as the white Democratic "nigger" at the Republicans gets but little encouragement from grownups. Mrs. Skinner is qualified to reason the thing out for herself.

The spectacle of a teacher in our City Graded Schools telling little children, who accept her every word as the absolute and unquestionable truth, that if the Republicans win next month, those children may have to sit next to negroes in school, and that they may have to learn their lessons under negro school teachers; and who intimates that she has no objection to anyone who votes for Harding by reason of these possibilities, is entirely different from the radical Democrat who is willing to yell to yells of negro domination because he hopes by his ignorant or dishonest representations to swing a few deceived voters his way. He talks to older people, and he does not impose upon the faith and credulity of little children.

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An examination of the children in Mrs. Skinner's department in the City Graded Schools has established the fact that she never made the statements eradicated to her by The Herald.

Mrs. Skinner has demanded an apology of The Herald and threatens to sue for damages. Mrs. Skinner has set forth her demands in a letter addressed severally and individually to C. R. Pugh and Jackson Wells, owners of The Herald, and to Ralph Pool, a reporter now employed by The Herald.

(Concluded on Page 7.)

The biggest sensation in Dare County since Walter Raleigh's ships sailed in among the Indian canoes in Manteo Bay, occurred this week when the Santa Maria and the Pinta, two big airplanes of the Aero-marine West Indies Airways, Inc. sailed across Albemarle Sound on their way from New York to Havana and alighted for a few hours rest at the same historic spot; and although the Government made Manteo an Aeronautic station during the war and despite the fact, of the NC 4 stopping there last winter during its southern flight, these two great planes created and caught more interest than the rest of the lot put together.

These machines of the navy P.S.L. type, were new when bought from the government and have been remodeled to carry U. S. mail and passengers between this country and Havana, Cuba. The bodies of these planes are about 44 feet long, besides the rudders and are equipped with two 400 H. P. Liberty motors, with tanks to carry 500 gallons of gasoline. The wings are about 100 feet long and a complete machine with supplies weighs upwards of four tons. They carry 12 passengers with hand baggage, besides a crew of three and 500 pounds of U. S. mail. It is claimed that utilizing these machines will save 22 hours over the present steamer schedules between this country and Cuba.

The president of this Company is Albert Tilt of New York, who is also president of the Phoenix Silk Mills, which comprises the largest silk manufacturing in the world. The general manager and vice-president is Geoffrey H. Bonnell, R. A. F., and the Assistant General Manager is George Tiffany. All of these men are from New York and accompanied by their wives, and representatives of the New York Times and New York Evening Post, are making with the ships the initial voyage for the enterprises. They are also accompanied by James W. Morse an aerial cinematographer, who is making pictures of the various stops in their flight, which will later be released for exhibition under the title of "Around the World in Eighty Flights."

This is the first and only corporation ever authorized to carry U. S. mail between this country and a foreign port; the contract for this service having been made with the Post Office Department in August. The firm intends also to operate these machines as mail and passenger carriers between Palm Beach and Miami and Nassau in the Bahama Islands, during the winter months. The members of the firm are enthusiastic over this proposed service and are planning to later extend it to South America. There are six in this fleet of machines owned by the line, a third one of which is named the Nina, making aerial replicas of the fleet with which Columbus first sailed the Caribbean.

When the two planes stopped at Manteo Monday evening for supplies, the crew and passengers became interested in the place and decided to stay over night before resuming the flight. The ships were moored in the bay and next morning when they were brought to the wharf, they proved such an attraction that the Dare County Superior Court which had convened that same morning, was really obliged to give a recess so that everybody might be present to observe the departure of the planes. Everyone in town turned out and the crowds of court spectators from various parts of the county were there, so that all together the wharves were literally packed with people.

When the machines finally left they carried copies of THE INDEPENDENT and took away also, three Manteo young ladies, who were to be put out at Southport where they intended making a visit. They were Misses Mable Evans, Augusta Peelle and Louise Davenport, three up to date girls who believing in taking things by the forelock decided to accept the invitations to become the first bona fide passengers of the first foreign mails plans in the country.

Others with the party were of course operating personnel which was released from the Navy for this purpose by special request. The names comprising those in the complements follows: Of the Santa Maria, Capt. Jack Isenman, officers Ward and Burling and mechanic Ebert; of the Pinta, Capt. T. L. Tibbs, first officer Nygard and mechanic Kelly and Barber.

KICKED BY A COW
J. E. Provo, superintendent of the county chain gang is nursing a sore leg as the result of being kicked by his cow. She kicked him twice.

SPRAINED AN ARM
Capt. J. B. Jones of the Coast Guard office stepped on one of those things called a creeper, in a garage; it slid out from under him, threw him a somersault and he was picked up with a sprained arm.